

MAINE DEPARTMENT OF LABOR

Labor Market Information

INSIDE . . .

Cumberland County records the lowest unemployment rate at 3.0 percent page 3

Adjusted statewide unemployment rate fell from 4.8 percent in December to 4.6 percent in January page 4

Nonfarm employment increases by 500 over the year page 6

A publication of the

MAINE DEPARTMENT OF LABOR
Labor Market
Information Services

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LABOR MARKET DIGEST

January Data

March 2003

Labor Surplus Areas Eligible for Bidding on Federal Contracts

The U.S. Department of Labor, Employment and Training Administration, recently released a list of labor surplus areas. The list, which became effective October 1, 2002 and remains in effect through September 30, 2003, includes the counties of Franklin, Piscataquis, Somerset and Washington.

An area is classified as a labor surplus area when its average unemployment rate was at least 20 percent above the average unemployment rate for all states (including the District of Columbia and Puerto Rico) during the previous two calendar years.

During periods of low national unemployment, the 20 percent ratio is disregarded and an area is classified as a labor surplus area if its unemployment rate during the previous two calendar years was six percent or more. This concept comes into operation whenever the two-year average unemployment rate for all states was five percent or below.

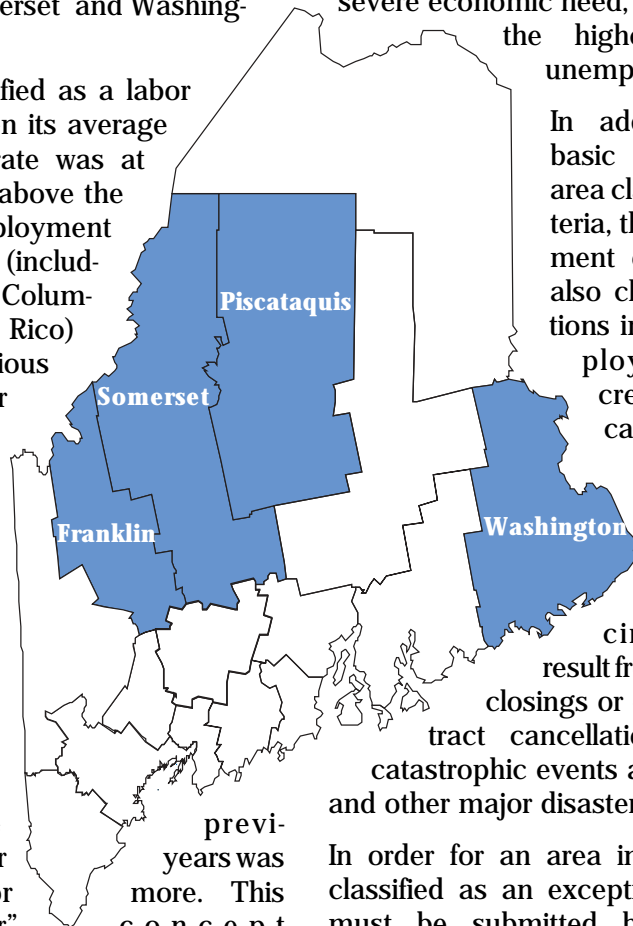
The national average unemployment rate during the period January 2000 to December 2001 fell below five percent. The six percent "floor" rate was triggered as a result.

Employers which are located in labor surplus areas can be given preference in bidding on Federal procurement contracts. The purpose in providing such preference is to help direct government procurement dollars into areas where people are in the most severe economic need, i.e., areas with the highest rates of unemployment.

In addition to the basic labor surplus area classification criteria, the U.S. Department of Labor may also classify jurisdictions in which unemployment increases significantly due to "exceptional circumstances" as surplus areas. Such

circumstances result from major plant closings or cutbacks, contract cancellations, or such catastrophic events as fires, floods, and other major disasters.

In order for an area in Maine to be classified as an exception, a petition must be submitted by the Maine Department of Labor indicating that the area has had an increase in unemployment which was not temporary or seasonal and which was not adequately reflected in the previous two-year reference period used in preparation of the annual listing. The Department is responsible for initiating the preparation and submittal of these petitions on behalf of the area.



Civilian Labor Force, Employed, and Unemployed by Labor Market Area, Not Seasonally Adjusted

AREA	CIVILIAN LABOR FORCE ¹			EMPLOYED ²			UNEMPLOYED ³			UNEMPLOYMENT RATE ⁴		
	Jan 03	Dec 02	Jan 02	Jan 03	Dec 02	Jan 02	Jan 03	Dec 02	Jan 02	Jan 03	Dec 02	Jan 02
LABOR MARKET AREAS												
Augusta	47,460	47,310	46,010	44,860	45,260	43,830	2,600	2,050	2,180	5.5%	4.3%	4.7%
Bangor MSA	53,700	53,600	52,300	51,700	51,900	50,500	2,000	1,700	1,800	3.8	3.1	3.4
Bath-Brunswick	34,370	33,320	34,170	32,780	32,130	32,700	1,590	1,190	1,470	4.6	3.6	4.3
Belfast	18,140	17,450	17,440	17,010	16,680	16,410	1,130	780	1,040	6.2	4.4	6.0
Biddeford	40,550	40,530	39,030	38,590	39,090	37,320	1,960	1,440	1,710	4.8	3.6	4.4
Boothbay Harbor	8,470	8,700	8,310	8,050	8,390	7,960	410	310	350	4.9	3.6	4.2
Bucksport	5,170	5,070	4,980	4,840	4,810	4,690	330	260	280	6.3	5.0	5.7
Calais	5,180	5,070	4,880	4,370	4,480	4,300	810	590	580	15.7	11.7	12.0
Dexter-Pittsfield	11,520	11,560	11,810	10,040	10,350	10,080	1,470	1,220	1,730	12.8	10.5	14.6
Dover-Foxcroft	7,030	6,950	6,990	6,420	6,380	6,380	610	580	610	8.7	8.3	8.7
Ellsworth-Bar Harbor	19,380	20,460	18,710	17,450	19,140	17,120	1,930	1,320	1,590	10.0	6.4	8.5
Farmington	17,370	17,180	17,250	16,250	16,190	16,240	1,120	990	1,010	6.4	5.8	5.9
Fort Kent	4,050	4,120	3,940	3,820	3,900	3,720	220	220	220	5.5	5.4	5.6
Greenville	1,120	1,060	990	1,040	970	920	90	90	70	7.7	8.7	7.3
Houlton	6,190	6,180	6,140	5,880	5,910	5,930	310	280	210	5.0	4.5	3.5
Jonesport-Milbridge	3,890	4,290	3,970	3,420	4,020	3,530	470	270	440	12.2	6.3	11.0
Kittery-York ⁵	21,150	21,560	20,730	20,380	20,480	19,810	770	1,070	920	3.7	5.0	4.4
Lewiston-Auburn MSA	55,400	54,100	54,600	52,600	51,800	52,200	2,700	2,300	2,500	4.9	4.2	4.5
Lincoln-Howland	6,020	6,090	5,900	5,590	5,680	5,550	430	410	350	7.2	6.8	5.9
Machias-Eastport	6,280	6,670	6,330	5,480	6,060	5,570	800	610	760	12.7	9.1	12.0
Madawaska	3,650	3,630	3,680	3,470	3,470	3,530	180	160	160	4.9	4.3	4.3
Millinocket-East Millinocket	4,100	4,920	4,960	3,400	4,380	4,610	700	540	350	17.2	10.9	7.1
Norway-Paris	11,750	11,640	11,620	10,860	10,850	10,720	890	790	890	7.5	6.8	7.7
Outer Bangor	9,800	9,690	9,610	9,190	9,180	9,030	610	500	590	6.2	5.2	6.1
Patten-Island Falls	1,830	1,750	1,800	1,650	1,620	1,670	180	140	130	9.6	7.8	7.2
Portland MSA	141,400	140,900	137,700	137,200	137,300	133,700	4,200	3,600	4,000	3.0	2.6	2.9
Presque Isle-Caribou	19,950	20,230	20,460	18,760	19,220	19,320	1,190	1,010	1,140	6.0	5.0	5.6
Rockland	23,880	23,330	23,160	22,700	22,580	22,250	1,170	760	910	4.9	3.2	3.9
Rumford	10,950	10,030	10,860	10,230	9,300	10,160	720	730	700	6.6	7.3	6.5
Sanford	23,420	22,550	23,440	21,340	20,580	21,380	2,080	1,970	2,060	8.9	8.7	8.8
Sebang Lakes Region	13,520	13,170	12,940	12,860	12,550	12,330	660	620	610	4.9	4.7	4.7
Skowhegan	15,850	15,460	15,760	14,330	14,150	14,310	1,510	1,310	1,440	9.5	8.5	9.2
Stonington	5,140	5,850	5,120	4,890	5,660	4,850	260	190	270	5.0	3.3	5.3
Van Buren	1,380	1,330	1,420	1,270	1,260	1,310	110	80	110	8.1	5.8	8.0
Waterville	25,290	25,060	24,570	23,440	23,470	23,170	1,850	1,590	1,400	7.3	6.4	5.7
MAINE	684,300	680,800	671,600	646,200	649,200	637,000	38,100	31,600	34,500	5.6	4.6	5.1
UNITED STATES (000)	145,301	144,807	143,228	135,907	136,599	134,177	9,395	8,209	9,051	6.5	5.7	6.3

¹ Civilian labor force, employed, and unemployed estimates are by place of residence. Current month estimates are preliminary; prior month and year-ago estimates are revised. Items may not add due to rounding. All data exclude members of the Armed Forces. MSA stands for Metropolitan Statistical Area.

² Total employment includes nonfarm wage and salary workers, agricultural workers, unpaid family workers, domestics, the self employed, and workers involved in labor disputes.

³ People are classified as unemployed, regardless of their eligibility for unemployment benefits or public assistance, if they meet all of the following criteria: 1) they were not employed during the survey week; 2) they were available for work at that time; and 3) they made specific efforts to find employment some time during the prior four weeks. Persons laid off from their former jobs and awaiting recall and those expecting to report to a job within 30 days need not be looking for work to be counted as unemployed.

⁴ The unemployment rate is calculated by dividing the total number of unemployed by the total civilian labor force, and is expressed as a percent.

⁵ Kittery-York is the five-town Maine portion of the Portsmouth-Rochester PMSA which includes towns in both Maine and New Hampshire.

Source: Maine Department of Labor, Labor Market Information Services, in cooperation with the U.S. Department of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics.

Civilian Labor Force, Employed, and Unemployed by County, Not Seasonally Adjusted¹

AREA	CIVILIAN LABOR FORCE			EMPLOYED			UNEMPLOYED			UNEMPLOYMENT RATE		
	Jan 03	Dec 02	Jan 02	Jan 03	Dec 02	Jan 02	Jan 03	Dec 02	Jan 02	Jan 03	Dec 02	Jan 02
COUNTY												
Androscoggin	61,870	60,420	60,980	58,640	57,790	58,140	3,230	2,630	2,840	5.2%	4.4%	4.7%
Aroostook	36,540	36,860	37,020	34,390	34,990	35,080	2,150	1,870	1,940	5.9	5.1	5.2
Cumberland	147,710	146,740	144,080	143,220	142,830	139,710	4,490	3,910	4,370	3.0	2.7	3.0
Franklin	14,560	14,430	14,510	13,740	13,670	13,730	820	760	780	5.6	5.3	5.3
Hancock	27,120	28,760	26,300	24,810	27,110	24,350	2,320	1,650	1,950	8.5	5.7	7.4
Kennebec	61,990	61,750	60,150	58,440	58,820	57,300	3,550	2,930	2,850	5.7	4.7	4.7
Knox	20,910	20,430	20,270	19,850	19,750	19,460	1,060	680	810	5.0	3.3	4.0
Lincoln	17,320	17,290	16,870	16,360	16,640	16,140	970	650	730	5.6	3.8	4.3
Oxford	27,240	26,110	26,840	25,390	24,330	24,980	1,850	1,770	1,860	6.8	6.8	6.9
Penobscot	79,800	80,520	79,250	75,320	76,820	75,130	4,480	3,700	4,120	5.6	4.6	5.2
Piscataquis	8,260	8,120	8,090	7,550	7,450	7,390	710	670	700	8.6	8.3	8.7
Sagadahoc	16,050	15,550	15,950	15,330	15,030	15,300	720	520	650	4.5	3.4	4.1
Somerset	24,930	24,500	24,670	22,320	22,270	22,270	2,610	2,230	2,390	10.5	9.1	9.7
Waldo	24,030	23,250	23,150	22,410	22,110	21,710	1,610	1,140	1,440	6.7	4.9	6.2
Washington	15,760	16,440	15,580	13,630	14,960	13,750	2,130	1,480	1,830	13.5	9.0	11.7
York	100,250	99,610	97,870	94,790	94,600	92,580	5,470	5,010	5,290	5.5	5.0	5.4
MAINE	684,300	680,800	671,600	646,200	649,200	637,000	38,100	31,600	34,500	5.6	4.6	5.1
UNITED STATES (000)	145,301	144,807	143,228	135,907	136,599	134,177	9,395	8,209	9,051	6.5	5.7	6.3

¹ See page 2 for footnotes 1 through 4 and source.

Area Analyst's Corner

Central Maine Ken Bridges (207) 624-5199

In Augusta, **Frank Pomerleau** and **Fort Western Tire** are closing within the next few months, displacing approximately 75 workers, many of whom have already found other employment opportunities. ♦ Add **Longhorn Steakhouse** and **Electronics Boutique** to the growing list of new businesses coming to The Marketplace shopping center in Augusta. ♦ In Rockland, **Fisher Plow** and fish processor **F. J. O'Hara** have filed plans to expand their businesses. The **Huhtamaki Corp.** (Chinet) in Waterville/Fairfield has a contract with the armed services to make trays for field rations, and are calling back many of the workers previously laid off.

Western Maine

Gerard Dennison (207) 753-9045

The unemployment rate increased in the Bath-Brunswick, Farmington, Lewiston-Auburn and Norway-Paris labor market areas in January. The increases were mostly attributable to post-holiday seasonal layoffs in retail trade and construction. ♦ Employment in the manufacturing sector continued to slide in 2003. **Acorn Products** in Lewiston stopped producing comfort wear. Downsizing occurred at **International Paper** in Jay and **Mead Paper** in Rumford. ♦ **Dyeables Inc.** closed their women's footwear plant in Auburn and reopened in Farmington. ♦ **Ski areas** in Western Maine reported having a record season due to early snow and cold temperatures.

North/East Maine Craig Holland (207) 941-3076

Brascan Corp of Toronto, Ontario, Canada, purchased Great Northern Paper Co. (GNP) which has been closed since last December. Brascan, the parent company of Frasier Paper Company which owns a paper mill, two sawmills, and has timber holdings in Maine, purchased GNP for \$91 million. ♦ In Millinocket, **Avenger Boats**, a subsidiary of American Boat Builders, wants to open a manufacturing facility in the community to build patrol boats for military and homeland defense purposes. The company hopes to employ 60 workers in the short term and up to ten times that number over time.

Southern Maine Merrill Huhtala (207) 822-0216

The **Council on International Educational Exchange** will employ 33 in Portland when it relocates from New York City. The high quality of area job applicants influenced this decision. ♦ The **Composite Technology Center**, a business incubator in Sanford, is now home to **Applied Thermal Technologies**, a developer of laser welding technology used in naval shipbuilding. ♦ **Dielectric Communications** laid off 39 in Raymond. ♦ **Atlantic Precision Products** will close its Sanford plant, laying off 72. ♦ **National Semiconductor** laid off 42 in South Portland as part of a worldwide staff reduction. ♦ **L.L.Bean** eliminated 300 jobs.

Civilian Labor Force, Employed, and Unemployed in Maine, Seasonally Adjusted (in thousands)

ITEM	2003 Jan	2002											
		Dec	Nov	Oct	Sep	Aug	Jul	Jun	May	Apr	Mar	Feb	Jan
Civilian Labor Force	698.3	687.7	687.2	687.1	686.0	686.6	687.3	686.5	685.4	685.6	685.0	684.4	685.1
Employed	666.2	654.8	655.2	656.2	655.5	656.4	657.2	656.7	656.4	656.3	655.9	655.8	656.6
Unemployed	32.2	32.9	32.1	31.0	30.5	30.2	30.1	29.8	29.1	29.3	29.2	28.5	28.5
Unemployment Rate (%)	4.6	4.8	4.7	4.5	4.4	4.4	4.4	4.3	4.2	4.3	4.3	4.2	4.2

¹ See page 2 for footnotes 1 through 4 and source.

Nonfarm Wage and Salary Employment in Maine, Seasonally Adjusted¹ (in thousands)

INDUSTRY North American Industry Classification System*	2003 Jan	2002											
		Dec	Nov	Oct	Sep	Aug	Jul	Jun	May	Apr	Mar	Feb	Jan
Nonfarm Wage and Salary Employment ²	605.4	604.2	603.8	605.9	606.3	607.8	608.1	606.4	606.4	606.0	605.4	604.7	604.8
Construction	28.8	29.3	29.5	29.2	29.4	29.4	29.4	29.2	29.1	29.2	29.0	29.2	29.5
Manufacturing	64.9	67.2	68.0	67.3	67.3	67.1	68.1	67.6	68.2	68.7	68.9	69.6	70.1
Trade, Transportation and Public Utilities	123.5	124.9	125.4	125.5	125.4	125.1	124.6	123.9	124.2	124.2	123.9	123.6	123.3
Professional and Business Services	51.3	50.9	51.6	51.2	51.4	51.8	51.9	51.7	51.7	51.6	51.4	51.1	51.0
Educational and Health Services	106.2	105.6	105.4	104.6	104.6	105.0	105.0	105.1	105.1	104.9	104.2	103.7	103.4
Leisure and Hospitality Services	57.7	56.4	56.4	56.3	56.3	57.5	57.7	56.8	57.1	56.9	57.0	56.8	56.6
Government	102.9	103.1	102.5	103.1	102.9	103.0	103.7	103.5	103.4	102.5	102.6	102.5	102.5

¹ See footnotes 1 and 2 on page 7. ²The nonfarm wage and salary estimate is seasonally adjusted independently. Not all supersectors are seasonally adjusted. Natural resources, information, financial activities, and other services are not suitable for seasonal adjustment because they have very little seasonal and irregular movement. Source: see page 2.

* See September 2002 *Labor Market Digest* for explanation of new industry classification system.

Maine Unemployment Rate 4.6 Percent in January

State Labor Commissioner Valerie Landry announced that the seasonally-adjusted January unemployment rate for Maine was 4.6 percent, down from 4.8 percent in December and up from 4.2 percent a year ago. The Maine unemployment rate was well below the national January rate of 5.7 percent.

“The seasonally-adjusted unemployment rate fell slightly between December 2002 and January 2003 as the number of nonfarm wage and salary jobs rose by 1,200,” said Commissioner Landry. “However, unemployment remains higher than a year ago, with little change in the total number of nonfarm jobs between January 2002 and January 2003.”

Between December 2002 and January 2003, seasonally-adjusted nonfarm wage and salary jobs increased by 1,200 to 605,400. Job gains were recorded in several services industries. Job losses were largely in manufacturing.

Between January 2002 and January 2003, seasonally-adjusted nonfarm wage and salary jobs rose by 600. Gains were primarily recorded in educational and health services, leisure and hospitality services, and government. Mostly offsetting these gains, manufacturing jobs declined, with the largest losses in paper, wood products, and computer and electronic products.

Other New England states reporting their seasonally-adjusted unemployment rate for January include Massachusetts, 5.2 percent; Rhode Island, 5.1 percent; New Hampshire, 4.4 percent; and Vermont, 4.1 percent. The

adjusted national rate for January was 5.7 percent, down from 6.0 percent in December and up from 5.6 percent in January 2002.

The not-seasonally-adjusted Maine unemployment rate for January was 5.6 percent, up from 4.6 percent for December and 5.1 percent for January 2002. The unadjusted national rate was 6.5 percent for January, up from 5.7 percent for December and 6.3 percent for January 2002. Not-seasonally-adjusted January unemployment rates for Maine counties ranged from 3.0 percent in Cumberland County to 13.5 percent in Washington County.

Not-seasonally-adjusted nonfarm wage and salary jobs in Maine fell by 23,400 between December and January. Retail trade jobs dropped after the peak of the holiday season. Normal seasonal losses were recorded in construction, eating and drinking places, and lodging services. State and local government and private educational services declined largely due to winter vacation breaks in schools and the University system.

Between January 2002 and January 2003, not-seasonally-adjusted nonfarm wage and salary jobs increased by 500. Services industries provided much of the job gain, with the largest increase registered by health care services. Several manufacturing industries recorded job declines, with the largest losses in paper, wood products, and computer and electronic products.

Selected Regular Unemployment Compensation Program Indicators

Key Data

	Jan 2003	Dec 2002	Jan 2002
Average Weekly Duration	17.2	17.3	14.5
Average Weekly Benefit Amount*	\$224.35	\$220.95	\$220.02
Exhaustees	959	919	914

* For totally unemployed claimants, excluding dependency allowances.

Weekly Initial Claims

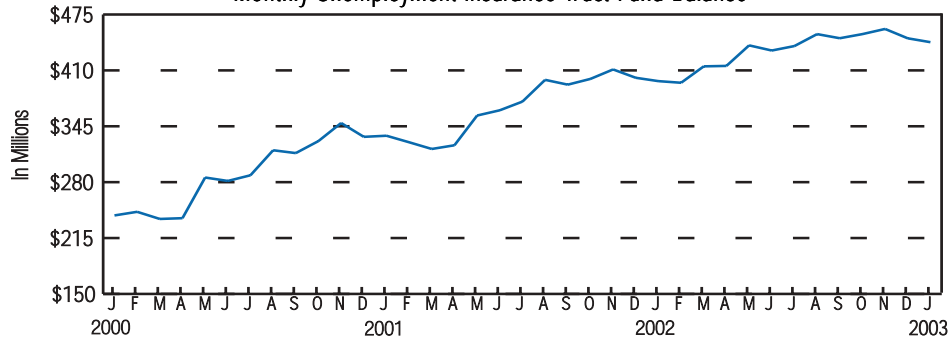
Week	3/8	3/1	2/22	2/15	2/8	2/1	1/25
2003	1,128	1,720	1,416	1,670	1,552	2,565	2,369
Week	3/9	3/2	2/23	2/16	2/9	2/2	1/26
2002	1,606	1,610	1,449	1,545	1,717	1,532	1,693

Continued Claims Less Partial*

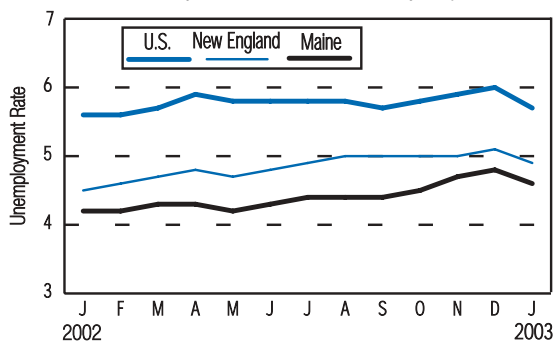
Jan 2003	Dec 2002	Jan 2002
15,285	10,010	14,037

* For the week including the 12th of the month.

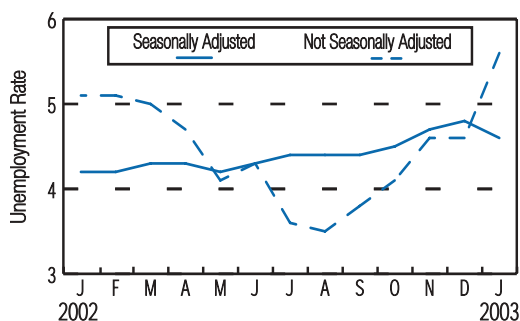
Monthly Unemployment Insurance Trust Fund Balance



Unemployment Rates, Seasonally Adjusted



Unemployment Rates for Maine

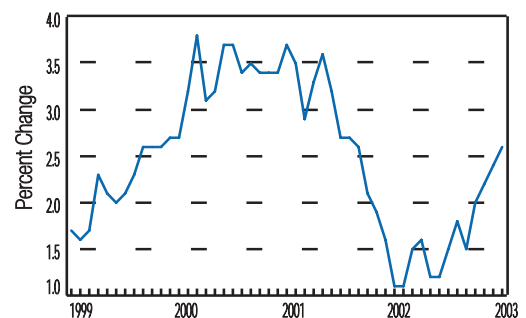


U.S. Consumer Price Index for all urban consumers (CPI-U)

Item	Jan 03	Dec 02	Jan 02
(1982-1984 = 100) All Items	181.7	180.9	177.1

Percent Change from Prior Month	+0.4%
Percent Change from 12 Months Ago	+2.6%
Percent change from Last December	+0.4%

Over-the-Year Change in CPI-U



Nonfarm Wage and Salary Employment, Not Seasonally Adjusted*

(in thousands)

INDUSTRY	MAINE			PORTLAND MSA			LEWISTON-AUBURN MSA		
	Jan 03	Dec 02	Jan 02	Jan 03	Dec 02	Jan 02	Jan 03	Dec 02	Jan 02
Nonfarm Wage and Salary Employment¹	584.2	607.6	583.7	153.2	158.7	150.9	45.8	46.8	45.9
Total Private	481.3	499.9	481.8	132.4	137.0	131.6	40.3	41.2	40.4
Goods Producing	93.7	98.3	98.0	18.9	19.4	18.5	8.3	8.5	8.7
Natural Resources and Mining	2.7	2.7	2.8	*	*	*	*	*	*
Logging	2.5	2.5	2.7	*	*	*	*	*	*
Construction	26.1	28.5	26.4	*	*	*	*	*	*
Construction of Buildings	7.3	7.6	7.2	*	*	*	*	*	*
Heavy and Civil Engineering Const.	3.0	3.6	2.8	*	*	*	*	*	*
Specialty Trade Contractors	15.8	17.3	16.4	*	*	*	*	*	*
Manufacturing	64.9	67.1	68.8	11.1	11.3	11.5	6.3	6.5	6.6
Durable Goods	35.0	35.6	36.2	*	*	*	*	*	*
Wood Product Manufacturing	6.1	6.3	6.8	*	*	*	*	*	*
Computer and Electronic Product Mfg.	4.4	4.5	5.0	2.5	2.5	2.7	*	*	*
Transportation Equipment Mfg.	10.2	10.2	10.5	*	*	*	*	*	*
Non-Durable Goods	29.9	31.5	32.6	*	*	*	*	*	*
Leather and Allied Product Mfg.	2.7	2.7	2.9	*	*	*	*	*	*
Paper Manufacturing	10.0	11.6	11.9	*	*	*	*	*	*
Service-Providing	490.5	509.3	485.7	134.3	139.3	132.4	37.5	38.3	37.2
Trade, Transportation, & Utilities	120.8	128.5	120.3	33.4	36.3	34.5	9.4	10.2	9.8
Wholesale Trade	19.9	20.3	19.8	7.2	7.1	7.3	1.2	1.2	1.3
Retail Trade	84.3	91.0	83.8	21.3	24.2	22.0	6.7	7.4	7.0
Motor Vehicle and Parts Dealers	10.4	10.7	10.2	*	*	*	*	*	*
Food and Beverage Stores	18.8	19.2	18.9	4.4	4.5	4.6	*	*	*
General Merchandise Stores	11.3	12.9	11.4	*	*	*	*	*	*
Nonstore Retailers	7.4	9.4	8.1	*	*	*	*	*	*
Trans., Warehousing, & Utilities	16.6	17.2	16.7	4.9	5.0	5.2	1.5	1.6	1.5
Utilities	2.2	2.2	2.2	*	*	*	*	*	*
Transportation and Warehousing	14.4	15.0	14.5	*	*	*	*	*	*
Information	11.5	11.6	11.8	4.3	4.4	4.4	0.6	0.6	0.7
Publishing Industries	3.3	3.4	3.6	*	*	*	*	*	*
Financial Activities	34.4	35.0	34.6	14.5	14.5	14.3	3.1	3.1	2.8
Finance and Insurance	28.1	28.5	28.2	11.8	11.8	11.8	*	*	*
Ins. Carriers & Related Activities	12.3	12.6	12.7	*	*	*	*	*	*
Real Estate & Rental & Leasing	6.3	6.5	6.4	*	*	*	*	*	*
Professional and Business Services	49.7	50.9	49.4	18.7	19.1	18.8	5.8	5.8	5.5
Prof., Scientific, & Technical Svcs.	22.3	22.5	22.6	*	*	*	*	*	*
Mgmt. of Companies & Enterprises	6.0	6.3	6.3	*	*	*	*	*	*
Admin. & Support & Waste Mgmt. Svcs.	21.4	22.1	20.5	*	*	*	*	*	*
Education and Health Services	104.5	106.4	101.9	24.7	24.3	23.9	8.7	8.7	8.5
Educational Services	16.7	18.2	16.3	*	*	*	*	*	*
Health Care and Social Assistance	87.8	88.2	85.6	22.3	22.1	21.2	*	*	*
Ambulatory Health Care Services	23.7	24.0	23.5	*	*	*	*	*	*
Hospitals	25.7	25.7	24.6	*	*	*	*	*	*
Nursing and Residential Care	22.5	22.5	22.0	*	*	*	*	*	*
Social Assistance	15.9	16.0	15.5	*	*	*	*	*	*
Leisure and Hospitality	47.0	49.4	46.7	12.8	13.8	12.2	3.0	2.9	3.0
Arts, Entertainment, and Recreation	7.1	6.6	7.1	*	*	*	*	*	*
Accommodation and Food Services	39.9	42.8	39.6	*	*	*	*	*	*
Accommodation	6.8	7.8	6.8	*	*	*	*	*	*
Food Services and Drinking Places	33.1	35.0	32.8	*	*	*	*	*	*
Other Services	19.7	19.8	19.1	5.1	5.2	5.0	1.4	1.4	1.4
Repair and Maintenance	5.1	5.2	5.0	*	*	*	*	*	*
Government	102.9	107.7	101.9	20.8	21.7	19.3	5.5	5.6	5.5
Federal	14.1	14.0	13.8	2.4	2.5	2.3	0.3	0.3	0.3
State	26.5	29.7	26.0	4.9	5.2	4.5	0.9	0.9	0.9
Local ²	62.3	64.0	62.1	13.5	14.0	12.5	4.3	4.4	4.3

Footnotes: See page 7.

* See September 2002 *Labor Market Digest* for explanation of new North American Industry Classification System.

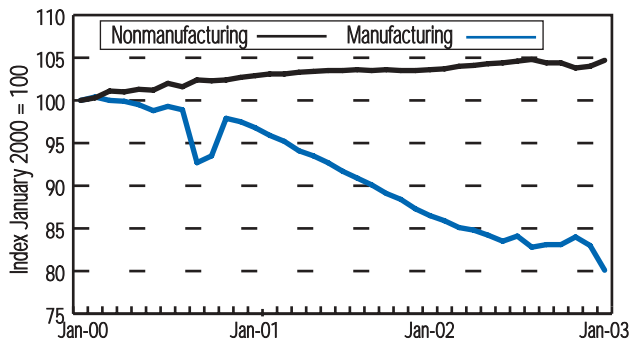
Earnings and Hours of Production Workers in Manufacturing Industries¹ Not Seasonally Adjusted

AREA AND INDUSTRY	AVERAGE WEEKLY EARNINGS			AVERAGE WEEKLY HOURS			AVERAGE HOURLY EARNINGS			ANNUAL AVERAGE HOURLY EARNINGS		
	Jan 03	Dec 02	Jan 02	Jan 03	Dec 02	Jan 02	Jan 03	Dec 02	Jan 02	2002	2001	2000
STATEWIDE												
Manufacturing	649.23	658.10	600.80	40.2	40.8	39.5	16.15	16.13	15.21	15.55	14.71	14.28
Durable Goods	631.13	631.33	599.84	39.6	40.6	39.6	16.11	15.55	15.15	15.34	14.50	13.50
Nondurable Goods	685.11	685.11	602.03	40.9	41.0	39.4	16.20	16.71	15.28	15.75	14.92	15.10
PORTLAND MSA												
Manufacturing	542.93	550.09	514.35	41.7	41.8	40.5	13.02	13.16	12.70	12.92	12.52	12.14

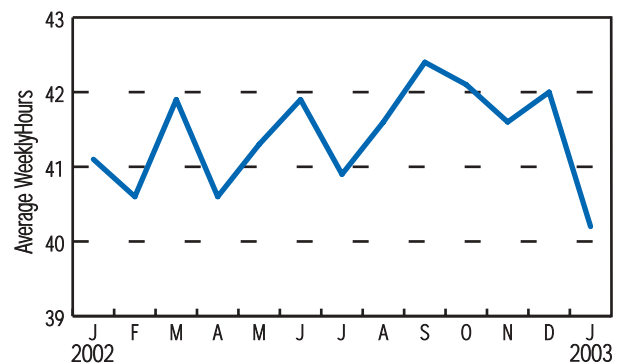
¹ Hours worked and earnings data are computed based on payroll figures for the week including the 12th of the month for manufacturing production workers. Average hourly earnings are calculated on a gross basis, and include such factors as premium pay for overtime and shift differential, as well as changes in basic hourly and incentive rates of pay. Average weekly earnings are the product of weekly hours worked and hourly earnings.

Source: See page 2.

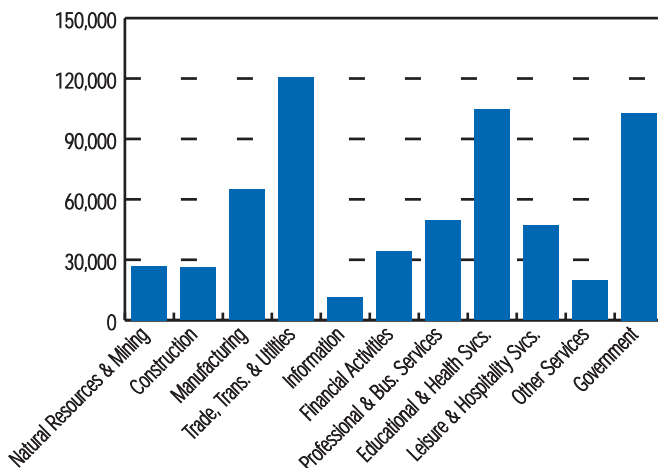
**Nonfarm Employment Trend by Sector
January 2000-January 2003¹**



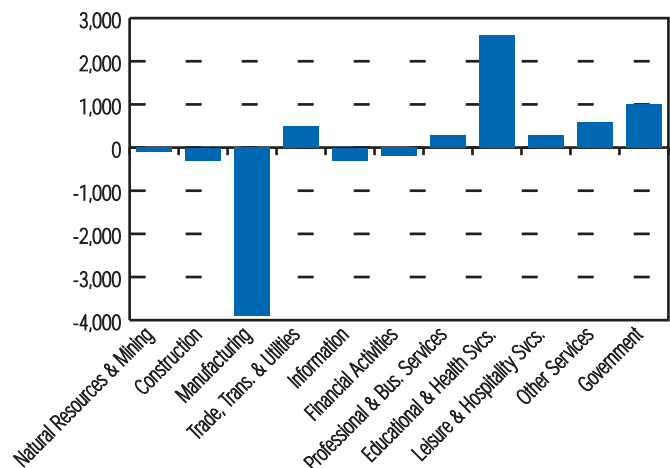
**Hours Worked by Manufacturing
Production Workers, Maine²**



**Nonfarm Employment by Industry Supersector
Maine, January 2003²**



**Nonfarm Employment by Industry Supersector
Maine, Over-the-Year Change, January 2003²**



¹ Seasonally Adjusted. ² Not Seasonally Adjusted.

Footnotes: From page 6.

¹ Nonfarm wage and salary employment estimates include all full- and part-time wage and salary workers who worked during or received pay for the pay period which includes the 12th of the month. Domestic workers in private households, proprietors, the self-employed, and unpaid family workers are excluded. Estimates measure the number of jobs by industry. Current month's estimates are preliminary; prior month and year-ago estimates are revised. These estimates are benchmarked to March 2002. As a measure of reliability, the March 2002 benchmark revision for total nonfarm wage and salary employment was .08 percent higher than the original sample-based estimate.

² Regular teachers are included in summer months whether or not specifically paid in those months.

* Where an employment estimate is not entered, either the data is not available in sufficient detail for publication or is nondisclosable by law.

Source: See page 2.

Union Members in 2002

In 2002, the share of wage and salary workers in the United States who were members of unions was 13.2 percent, down from 13.4 percent in 2001. The union membership rate has fallen from a high of 20.1 percent in 1983, the first year for which comparable union data are available. The number of union members fell by 280,000 over the year to 16.1 million in 2002.

Government workers continued to have a substantially higher unionization rate (37.5 percent) than workers in the private sector (8.5 percent). Within the public sector, local government workers had the highest unionization rate, at 42.8 percent. This group includes the heavily unionized occupations of teachers, police officers, and firefighters. Among the private nonagricultural industries, the highest unionization rate occurred in

transportation (23.8 percent). Unionization rates in durable goods manufacturing (15.6 percent) and construction (17.2 percent) were higher than the average as well. The nonagricultural industry with the lowest unionization rate in 2002 was finance, insurance, and real estate (1.9 percent).

Among the occupational groups, protective service workers continued to have the highest unionization rate, at 37.0 percent. Other occupational groups with higher-than-average rates were precision production, craft, and repair workers (20.7 percent); and operators, fabricators, and laborers (19.1 percent), many of whom work in the manufacturing industry. The unionization rate was lowest in sales occupations (3.6 percent).

Union affiliation of employed wage and salary workers, 2002

(in thousands)

State	Total employed	Members of unions ¹		Represented by unions ²	
		Total	Percent of employed	Total	Percent of employed
Total U.S.	122,007	16,107	13.2	17,771	14.5
Connecticut	1,534	257	16.7	273	17.8
Maine	582	75	12.9	88	15.1
Massachusetts	3,003	428	14.2	469	15.6
New Hampshire	613	60	9.7	69	11.2
Rhode Island	471	81	17.2	84	17.9
Vermont	289	27	9.5	32	11.0

¹Data refer to members of a labor union or an employee association similar to a union.

²Data refer to members of a labor union or an employee association similar to a union, as well as workers who are not members, but whose jobs are covered by a union or employee association contract.

NOTE: Data refer to the sole or principal job of full- and part-time workers. All self-employed workers are excluded, regardless of whether their businesses are incorporated.

Source: Bureau of Labor Statistics, Current Population Survey.

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